

**JUST LOOK
AT WHAT
WE'VE ACHIEVED
TOGETHER.**
1st Combs Scout Group Annual General Meeting



1st Combs Scout Group

Agenda for 1st Combs Scout Group AGM

Held at 1st Combs Scout Centre, Combs Wood Drive, Combs

on Tuesday 13th May 2014 at 7:30pm

Welcome and Apologies

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 14th May 2013

Matters Arising

Group Chairman Report

Group Treasurers Report

Section Leaders Report

Beaver Sections.

Mowgli Cub Scout

Shere Khan Cub Scouts

Scout Troop

Cougars Explorer Scouts

GSL Report

District Commissioner

Appointment and Election of Group Executive Committee

Group Chairman

Vice Chairman:

Group Secretary:

Group Treasurer

Finance Administrator

Membership Secretary

Members of the Group Executive

Appointment of Auditors

AOB

Meeting closed at

Refreshments

1st Combs Scout Group AGM
Attendance List
Tuesday 14th May 2013

Name	Association e.g. Committee/Parent/Guest/Leader	Name	Association e.g. Committee/Parent/Guest/Leader
ANGELA HART	BSL		
Alison Otero	BSL		
Sarah PETTIT	PARENT .		
Jon PETTIT	CHAIRMAN.		
SHANE STOOK	PARENT		
SARAH THOMPS	CSC		
Pat Lambert	AGSL		
JOHN MANDERSON	ACSL		
CAROLYN VERNON	Guest .		
GARY MORRISON	ACSL		
EDWARD LAMBERT	TREASURER		
CHRIS FROST	ACSL		
ROBBIE PLATT	A.C.-SL		
Gerard Brewster	Hon President		
Keith Thompson	De		
GWYN OAKLEY	ASL , DESL		
ANDY BLOOMFIELD	ASL		
Nehya Frost.	Secretary		

Minutes of 1st Combs Scout Group AGM
Held at 1st Combs Scout Centre, Combs Wood Drive, Combs
On Tuesday 1st May 2012 at 7:30 PM

Welcome and Apologies

Jonathan Pettit Chairman welcomed those present.
Apologies from Helen Jameson, David Jameson, Theresa Sparks, Andrew Vaughan-Wright, Dale Gray

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Tuesday 14th May 2013

Proposed: Shane Stook
Seconded: Gwyn Oakley

Matters Arising

No matters were raised.

Group Chairman Report

Please see AGM reports pack

Group Treasurers Report

Please see AGM reports pack
Thanks go to Clive Maskell for auditing accounts.

Section Leaders Reports

Beaver Scouts Colonies (Alison Otero).

See AGM reports pack

Mowgli Cub Scout (Pat Lambert)

Addition to printed pack Alastair Mitson should be added to Young Leaders

Shere Khan Cub Scouts (Sarah Thompson)

See AGM reports pack.

Scout Troop (Andy Bloomfield)

See AGM reports pack.

Stowmarket Dragon

See AGM reports pack

Group Scout Leader Report

See AGM reports pack

DC Keith Thompson

It gave the DC great pleasure to come to a group with a family feel. It is good to hear of the varied activities being under taken by each section. It is good to see a group with up to date equipment. This year Scout Show was a great success and it was good to so many from 1st Combs. It is good that leaders should not need to worry about finances so they can concentrate on section activities. Keith congratulated the leadership team and wished them another successful year.

DC – Presented Chris Frost his Wood Badge.

Appointment and Election of Group Executive Committee

Group Chairman GSL nominated Jonathan Pettit

Vice Chairman: Vacant

Group Secretary: GSL nominated Melvyn Frost.

Group Treasurer GSL nominated Edwin Lambert.

Finance Administrator GSL nominated Helen Jameson.

Membership Secretary GSL nominated Angela Hart.

All seconded by Jonathan Pettit

Before Edwin accepted, he had to read out this piece. Under the rules of my professional body I have to inform you that I am at present Treasurer of The friends of Stowmarket Middle School - this role will not give rise to conflict as they use different banking facilities to the Group. I have given notice of my intention to stand down at the end of this school year. However no replacement has yet come forward and I have agreed to continue in a book-keeping capacity. In addition I act as unremunerated auditor to the Wrampingham and Burford village Hall Committee.

Honorary President: Gerard Brewster

Other Members of the Group Executive are Sharon Dade, Shane Stook and Holly Trueman

Appointment of Auditors

Edwin hoped to get Clive Maskell to audit the accounts again next year.

AOB

Meeting finished at 8:10pm

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the District Commissioner, all members of 1st Combs Scout Group, Parents and friends.

Chairing this year's A.G.M. is my final official duty before I stand down from the position of Chairman of the Group. I have been involved with 1st Combs Scout Group for approximately 10 years and have seen my own children benefit from membership of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. I helped on the Executive Committee for several years before becoming Chairman 4 years ago and I've had the great pleasure of working with a small but extremely dedicated team of volunteer helpers and leaders.

The role of the Executive Committee is to assist in such areas as fundraising and maintenance of the Scout Centre, thereby helping the Leaders to concentrate on providing an extensive range of activities and camps for the children and young people who belong to the group. Our leader team in particular should be congratulated for their continuing hard work and commitment.

We have a fantastic headquarters at 1st Combs, and this is a great tribute to the efforts of both past and present members of the group. Keeping these facilities in good condition takes a lot of hard work and I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the upkeep of the building and grounds in my time as chairman.

The job description I was given before joining the committee was quite short, in fact it was non-existent. Over time however, I realised that my role would not purely be to chair meetings and that I would be required to multitask. I soon realised that this included cleaning toilets, cutting the grass, erecting scaffolding at the Duck Race and occasionally burning burgers at social gatherings! I wouldn't have missed a moment of it however. It has been a great pleasure to be involved with such a great team of people.

There are too many people that have helped me to name them all this evening, but I feel I must give a particular mention to Melvyn and Edwin, who have been mainstays of the Executive Committee for many years. I would also like to thank our GSL, David Hart, who has guided me through my time as chairman and steered the group with a steady hand.

As I have said on previous occasions, for any organisation to improve and grow, fresh ideas and new personnel are required from time to time. To keep any group successful, it is important that parents are willing to support fundraising events that are organised for the benefit of their children and also provide practical help in order to keep the cost of subscriptions down to an acceptable level. 1st Combs has a small but strong pool of experienced committee members, but as children and their parent helpers leave the group, it is vital that they are replaced with new and enthusiastic personnel. Anyone who is not already involved, but would like to take part and help or even join our committee please speak to one of the leaders or committee members after this meeting.

One of the main aims of the committee is fundraising, in the last year we have held Quiz nights, a Race night, Chocolate Bingo and recently a Sponsored Walk. Our main fundraising event of the year The Duck Race takes place at Pikes Meadow on Saturday 7th

June. All are welcome and we are keeping our fingers crossed for some good weather. Last year was a huge success raising over £3000, so it will be a big challenge to improve on this, this year. This event takes a lot of organisation and effort on the day, so any extra help even just for a few hours would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to wish all the leaders and sections of 1st Combs Scouts a very successful future and again express my thanks to the members of the Group Executive for their fantastic support over the last few years.

Jonathan Pettit

Group Chairman.

Mowgli Pack Report 2014

Another varied year, the Cubs have been busy with badges, camps and other activities

The Cubs have been working towards the various challenge badges. We have had international, fitness and rounder's evenings, a pioneering evening at Haughley Park and a visit from the police. The Cubs even got to play with some police equipment.

We have 6 Cubs that have achieved their Silver Chief Scout Award the highest award for Cubs. We have completed other badges:

- Cyclist Badge - gained when we had a sleepover weekend of bike activities and cycled to Needham Market;
- Map reader
- Naturalist
- Water activities
- Hikes and nights away;

Last year if the Cubs attended every camp and sleepover, they had the opportunity of earning 10 nights away.

We are very proud that one of Cubs, Alina Ward, won the award for designing the Duck Race Badge to mark the 25th Anniversary of the event. A combined team of Monday and Thursday night Cubs won the District football competition in March.

We have had joint camps and sleepovers with Shere Khan Pack and hope to have many more.

The highlight of the year was our Pack Holiday at Eaton Vale in August. We had a lovely day out during the week, at the local Eaton Park, where the Cubs and big Kids (Young and old leaders) had to be bribed to get off the small railway. We had wacky races in the afternoon –egg and spoon, sack, 3 legged races - though some how this ended up in some cases with teams of to 3 or 4

people. We eventually returned to camp after a Sausage and chip supper at about 8pm. It wasn't the theme park that the Cubs thought we were attending, as they only knew they were going to a park, but they still had a great day. The camp was a success with numerous activities, including a big water fight. The Cubs had a great time so thanks to all the Young and Adult leaders that attended. It also helped that the weather was good.

Cubs attended District Camp, Fun Night, and Challenge Camp.

Of course, Cubs would not be Cubs without the usual cooking, tasting, and wide games throughout the year.

I would like to say thank you to all leaders and Young Leaders without them Cubs would not be as successful as it is.

Finally, I cannot finish this report with out a mention of Gary. Last year was over shadowed by his diagnosis of Cancer and the subsequent treatment but he never missed an event or evening until the last few just before Christmas and I don't think the Cubs were aware that he was not well. We were all very shocked when he passed away in January. We thought he would be around a lot longer and although we knew he would not survive it was sooner than we expected. We still feel a great loss as he was an important part of Cubs whether Monday or Thursday. We miss him.

Leaders

Theresa Sparkes CSL, and

Chris Frost ACSL, Pat Lambert ACSL, Robbie Platt ACSL

Young Leaders

Chelsea Sparkes, Mark Lambert, Mike Dade, Josh Elford, Mark Lennon

Shere Khan Cub Pack Report 2014

Another year of activity for the cubs, I write this following St. Georges day parade where three quarters of the cubs attended

District Cub camp at Athlington Hall was well attended and the older cubs at challenge camp had great fun despite a last minute change of venue due to a double booking.

We finished the summer with a joint pack BBQ with Mowgli pack

The end of term brought pack holiday, with 4 nights at Eaton vale , where the cubs got chance to try out raft building, go-carting and crate stacking, as well as the more traditional camp skills such as peeling vegetables! The only rain coming unfortunately on the last morning meaning returning with wet tents

Autumn term saw us continue camping with a night at Haughley park which allowed some of those younger cubs to get experience under canvas and have already had a 'no sleepover' this year as another chance

We have worked on athlete, home help, chef and scientist badges and Fitness challenge and work towards other challenges, with several cubs earning the silver chief scout award before moving onto scouts

District cub day was thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended gaining new skills and experiences and we are looking forward to fun night and a district hike before we start camping again which starts with the group camp at the end of may

As always I'd like to thank John and Carol the explorers Josh, Hayley and Abbey without who the pack would not

Finally I must sadly mention how much Gary is missed with his enthusiasm and knowledge he was a true scout

Sarah Thompson CSL

Shere Khan Pack

1st Combs Scout Troop Annual Report 2014

Our numbers are very healthy at the moment with 39 Scouts currently in the Troop. The breakdown is 26 Boy's and 13 Girls. The Troop at the moment is very young after seeing an exodus of the older Scouts move to the Explorer Section just after the turn of the year. We have 6 adult Leaders (although 1 is now on maternity leave, congratulations to Gwyn on the birth of her baby daughter Pippa) but we have been joined by Mark. We also have 1 Troop assistant and 2 Young Leaders who all have input into running a successful mixed programme covering all aspects and more besides of the Scout Programme. We would like to congratulate one of our Young Leaders Emily for achieving her Queen Scout Award. Thoroughly deserved.

We do tend to concentrate more on the Outdoor activities rather than the more school classroom like challenges as we believe that is what the Scouts have joined for.

Since last year we have had 25 nights away in the form of many camps, cycle ride and sleepovers, overnight hikes, District Events and our superb Summer Camp at Lochgoilhead in Scotland. Thanks again go to our Young Leaders who have come along and helped on many activities plus a few extra we have drafted in from the Cougars ESU, in particular, Abbie, Hayley, Tim and Mark.

Over the Year, we have awarded over 170 various types of badges, from participation to Chief Scout Gold Awards.

Our highlight of the year was no doubt our Trip to Lochgoilhead for our Summer Camp. We took 2 mini buses to Scotland once again, setting off at 11pm on the Friday night. Quite an eventful drive up there, going through some torrential rain and thunderstorms, avoiding jack knifed lorries and several other vehicles that had skidded off the road. We arrived at Loch Lomond just in time for breakfast and then we continued onto Lochgoilhead where we were to enjoy a week of packed activities. We all took part in, sailing, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, abseiling, burn run, high ropes and crabbing in the evenings. Our day trip out was to the Sea Life Centre on Loch Lomond. The last 2 days of the Trip the Scouts had the chance to achieve their R.Y.A. 2 Star Award in sailing or paddle sports, most of them chose sailing and after some very mixed weather conditions, from no wind, to too much wind. All were successful in achieving their award. The ones who chose paddle sports also gained their 2 star awards. The whole week was very successful. The Centre is run by very enthusiastic staff that makes sure that the Scouts have a great time and achieve their goals. This Camp will stick in the memory of all those who went along for a long time, and I am sure that it will not be many years until we go back!

This year for Summer Camp, we are having a joint one with the Explorer Section and we are going to the Norjam 2014 Jamboree. We are taking 40 Scouts/Explorers and 8 adults and a very small child with us, so we will be quite a large contingent once again.

David Jameson

1ST Combs Scout Leader



Cougars ESU Report



We have a strong group of 23 Explorers with a split of 17 male & 6 females and a leadership team of 3 people meeting regularly on a Wednesday evening.

<i>Murder Mystery</i>	<i>Conservation at Museum</i>
<i>Bike Ride</i>	<i>Quartermaster</i>
<i>Wet Games</i>	<i>Scouting Skills</i>
<i>River Walk</i>	<i>Remembrance Parade – well turned out</i>
<i>Pancake Night</i>	<i>Cooking Night</i>
<i>Twisting Houses</i>	<i>Camp Chairs</i>
<i>Young Leader’s Course</i>	<i>Christmas Meal & Sleep Over</i>
<i>Bag Packing</i>	<i>Helping at the duck race</i>
<i>Chinese New Year</i>	<i>Debate Night</i>
<i>Chocolatier</i>	<i>Bright Idea</i>

Summer canal boat chug!!

The explorers had two boats on the Warwickshire ring where they had a good week although the canal was a little bit busy!! Having a few stops along the way including the Tamworth snow dome.

June Scouting skills Camp at HP

The explorers refreshed their minds on basic scouting skills, cooking on open fires, pioneering project, knot work and camp craft.

Gilwell 24

The Gilwell 24 event is a 24 hour long day of activity and challenge running from 09:00 on Saturday straight through until 09:00 Sunday. The aim is to get round as many of the activity below as possible in the 24 hrs

<i>3G Swing</i>	<i>Archery</i>
<i>Bushcraft Zone</i>	<i>Bouldering</i>
<i>Brushboarding</i>	<i>Campfire</i>
<i>Climbing</i>	<i>White Water Rafting</i>
<i>Crate stacking</i>	<i>Disco</i>
<i>Fairground</i>	<i>Flying Trapeze</i>
<i>Geocaching</i>	<i>Giant games</i>
<i>Gilwell gauntlet</i>	<i>Global Zone</i>
<i>Shelterbox</i>	<i>High ropes course</i>
<i>Kayaking</i>	<i>Laser Clay Pigeon Shooting</i>
<i>Mountain boarding</i>	<i>Orienteering</i>
<i>Outdoor arena</i>	<i>Quad Bikes</i>
<i>Outdoor Woodland Quasar</i>	<i>Raft Racing / Boat Racing</i>
<i>Rifle Shooting</i>	<i>Competition</i>
<i>Scavenger hunt</i>	<i>Scuba Diving</i>
<i>Slacklining</i>	<i>Speed climbing</i>



Cougars ESU Report



<i>Segways</i>	<i>Simulators</i>
<i>Technology zone</i>	<i>Water rockets</i>

It could not of been that tiring as 11 have booked to go back later this year!!

Chill out Camp at HP

A well deserved relax with all the exams going on!!!

Young leaders

We had 4 Attend the young leader's course at Hallowtree. The young leaders have been helping in the various sections in the district for which the Unit leaders are very grateful.

This year hand on project was twitting houses where the Explores made their own bird box to take home and monitor.

We are attending Norjam with the Troup for our Summer Camp this year.

We had 6 attend the Canoeing & Kayaking course with 6 being awarded there BCU 2 Star

We support the Explorers through their D of E award, utilizing the district infrastructure for expeditions.

A over view of the awards/ badges achieved:

At our presentation evening we awarded

3 Platinum Chief Scout Awards,

2 Diamond Chief Scout Awards,

1 D of E Bronze Award

1 Explorer has been awarded the 200 nights away badge.

Emily WV had the privilege to visit Windsor to be awarded her Queen Scout Award. BIG WELL DONE.

We temporally have gone down to two leader as Gwyn has had a little girl Pippa and we wish her all the best and look forward to her return soon! Because we are managing to spent the fund rapidly !

The explorers have purchased some new camping kit and would like to say Thank you to 1st Combs Scout Group for allowing us to store our kit and meet in their HQ.

Group Scout Leaders

AGM Report 2014

You will have heard from the section reports that our young members have had another exciting year, with their varied programs that offer them the chance to participate in activities. These activities are designed to stretch their minds in their development within the scouting program and enable them to achieve the rewards of badges and awards that exist in the various sections of our movement.

The Group Executive committee has, as in past years been fund raising that maintains our headquarters and also enables us to buy new equipment for camping and activities that take the young people outdoors in the wide open spaces.

Our annual Duck Race will take place on the 7th June, this is our main fundraiser but is also an opportunity, to get out and advertise scouting to the general public. The day is always a busy one but the rewards are worth it (but I have to say that don't I).

We have held chocolate bingo sessions, mainly for the children and a quiz evening, which put all of our memories to the test. Our fund raising also helps to keep our membership fees at, a level that makes scouting available/affordable to all young people.

This year the group will be holding a group camp from the 30th May – 1st June at Bradfield Park just outside Bury St Edmunds. We will have all the sections camping, the Beavers will be using the indoor accommodation with the Cub Scouts, Scouts and leaders will be in tents for two nights. A lot of hard work and planning has gone into staging this event, this has involved yet more meetings for our hard working leader team, (only two hours a week) I'm sure it will be a successful and enjoyable event.

The work done by our section leaders and their leader teams, makes my job as Group Scout Leader reasonably easy and that with doubt makes the group run smoothly.

Sadly we lost Gary Morphew earlier this year and he still missed very much by all of us. One of our strengths within the group is good support

structure; we try to ensure all of our leaders are supported, whether it is in scouting or outside. Pat Lambert I know has been very supportive of Jane Morphew and the family since their sad loss.

On a happier note, we would like to congratulate Gwyn and Simon on the safe arrival of their daughter Pippa.

We have welcomed a new leader to our beaver section in the form of Sarah. Mark Lambert has joined the scout section as an assistant scout leader; we wish them all the best for the future.

I would like to thank all our leaders, assistants and helpers for their continuous hard work and support during the past year.

My thanks go to all of our executive committee for their hard work in the past year. This gratitude extends to our Chairman Jonathan Pettit, Secretary Mel Frost and our Treasurer Edwin Lambert. Without all the members of our executive, my life as a GSL would be extremely difficult and the group would not be able to function.

The cleaning, painting and gardening does help to keep the headquarters a healthy environment for Scouting.

Jonathan has decided to stand down as chairman at this year's AGM; I would like to thank him on behalf of the group and personally for all of his hard work during his tenure. This has benefited the group in its continuous drive, to deliver a high standard of scouting to the young people in Combs.

I would like to thank my wife for her continuous support that enables me to do what I do, in my role as Group Scout Leader.

Thank you all I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

David Hart

Group Scout leader.